

OCTOBER 24 IS BY-ELECTION DAY IN SMS

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Dwayne George speaking at an ABLP rally on Saturday night. George is expected to be nominated on Tuesday to contest the St. Mary's South By-Election on October 24.



October 24 is By-Election Day in SMS

The people of the St. Mary's South (SMS) constituency will vote in the much-anticipated By-Election on October 24.

The announcement was made over the weekend by Prime Minister Gaston Browne, signaling a process that is prescribed in the Antigua and Barbuda Constitution.

In a letter issued to the Governor General, Sir Rodney Williams, the prime minister advised him to issue the Writ of Elections on October 3, Nomination Day is set for October 9, and the By-Election on October 24.

According to the latest

figures coming out of the Antigua and Barbuda Electoral Commission, there are 2,707 persons eligible to vote in the upcoming by-election.

That is up from the 2,588 persons who were eligible to vote in the January 18 General Elections.

Newly appointed Supervisor of Elections, Ian Hughes, said the number of eligible voters may increase slightly as the claims and objections for newly registered as well as for those seeking transfers come to an end today (Monday 2).

“We will have to go through the claims and ob-

jections process, complete the transfers, as well as remove the names from the list of those persons who died since the last General Elections,” he explained.

Hughes said that ABEC is ‘fully prepared’ to manage the upcoming By-Election which the commission knew had to take place and it was just waiting for the announcement of the dates.

“The Returning Officer has been affirmed for the By-Election.

“She is Denese Parker who performed a similar role in the January 18 plebiscite.

“There will be eight polling stations: five in Bo-

lans, two in Urlings, and one in Johnson’s Point.

“Training of the polling clerks will take place on October 10. For those polling clerks who are returning from the January 18 exercise, this will be a refresher course while for the new persons, it will be an introduction to the conduct of an election from the point of view of ABEC,” he stated.

On Nomination Day, each candidate who wishes to contest the election must have a proposer, a second-er, and eight persons who are assenters. They must all be registered in the constituency.

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Dwayne George is assured a seat in the Cabinet...if he wins

The announcement of the date for the By-Election in St. Mary's South (SMS) signals the official launch of the campaign by the two main political parties to win the seat.

While the outcome will not affect the Antigua and Barbuda Labour Party's ability to retain office, it will provide some comfort for the administration, as it only has a one-seat majority in the House of Representatives.

It is not surprising, therefore, that the ABLP has pulled out its top officials to help the political newcomer, Dwayne George, in a bid to help him win the seat.

Speaking at a public rally in Bolans on Saturday, at the end of a whistle-stop, Prime Minister Gaston Browne,



Dwayne George

said George has the competence to serve in his Cabinet and that there is a seat for him, but he first has to win the seat.

"George is a qualified man who still lives among you here in Bolans. Because of his qualifications, he can serve in any ministry in my government. However,

should he win, there is a place for him in the Ministry of Finance where I am the senior minister," PM Browne stated.

The prime minister reported that since his selection as the potential candidate for the ABLP, George has been meeting regularly with the Cabinet to report on priority areas that need attention in

the constituency. He added that the work that is being done in the area has come from the lobbying efforts of George.

PM Browne noted that the soon-to-be candidate's influence also extended beyond the Cabinet. He disclosed that at a recent meeting, George held with Rob Barrett of Elite Island Resorts, managers of the Jolly Beach Hotel, he was able to get the hotelier to pledge 100 jobs for people in the area; that was after Barrett initially offered 25 jobs.

The prime minister encouraged the people of SMS to cast their votes for George as this will enable him to continue the effective work that he has been doing, on their behalf, in the constituency.

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High praise for collaboration between Government and NGOs on environmental issues

The efforts to successfully have Redonda declared a protective area was a result of the close collaboration between the government and the Environmental Awareness Group (EAG), a leading Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) in this space.

That was a central theme running through the remarks offered on Saturday at an event held on the grounds of the Environmental Division to raise awareness of the fact that the island has been designed as a protective area, and to generate interest in the island.

“The newly established Redonda Eco-system Reserve combines 30,000 hectares of land and sea. It encompasses the entire island, the surrounding sea-grass meadows, and 180 kilometres of coral reefs. I started working with the EAG, ReWild, and Fauna and Flora International to declare this area in 2016. There’s been much work from the Environment Division, as well as other governmental agencies such as the Fisheries Division and the Department of Marine Services. This is special because it represents a collaborative effort between government and the NGOs,” attorney in the Environment Division, Nneka Nicholas revealed.

She said this type of collaboration between states and the NGO community is key, as it will serve as the basis for mankind to effectively deal with the challenges that emerge as a result of climate change.

“The planet is at the cusp of a triple planetary crisis which combines climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution and the only way that mankind will be able to surround these challenges is if we have collabora-



Information Minister, Melford Nicholas, second left, and Nneka Nicholas, right, with members of the EAG.

tion,” she declared.

Speaking immediately after her was Information Minister, Melford Nicholas, who echoed some of the sentiments about the need for collaboration between the government and NGOs.

Minister Nicholas noted that whilst the move to have the designation started in 2009, it gathered momentum under the stewardship of Environment Minister, Sir Molwyn Joseph in 2016.

“Recalling that in 2019 the EAG, along with the Department of Environment, presented a plan for the designation of Redonda and its surrounding seas as a protected area under the Environmental Protection and Management Act, and through the efforts of many technicians within the Department of Environment, the Redonda Ecosystem Reserve was officially declared as protected in August 2023

“When we protect things, we go big! The Redonda Ecosystem Reserve

is the largest protected area within the Eastern Caribbean to date spanning 30,000 hectares of land and sea, and that is roughly the size of Antigua alone!” he stated.

Minister Nicholas noted that conservation can never happen in a vacuum and must be supported by multiple partners and people.

“We, therefore, applaud the EAG for reaching out to partners across the world to assist with the restoration efforts on Redonda, and for the work ahead,” he remarked.

Executive Director of the EAG, Arika Hill spoke of some of the achievements of the EAG over the years, including saving the Antiguan racer snake and turtles through the offshore islands conservation programme.

The declaration of the Redonda Eco-system Reserve is however seen as one of its most impactful achievements thus far.

A&B's influence on the world stage continues to grow

Antigua and Barbuda has been able to distinguish itself as it engaged with world leaders and was quite pronounced regarding a variety of issues affecting island nations across the globe during the 78th session, of the United Nations General Assembly.

The country's position on several pressing concerns ranging from the climate crisis and its resulting consequences on small states, the pioneering role it is playing in the development of a Multidimensional Vulnerability Index to the humanitarian crisis, and violent upheavals in Haiti were clearly articulated by Prime Minister the Honourable Gaston Browne during his address to the United Nations General Assembly last Friday.

The nation scored a major achievement with its execution of two major side-events which resulted in significant outcomes and recommendations. The International Finance and Energy Transition Diplomacy held on September 18 garnered feedback from high-ranking SIDS and non-SIDS officials who discussed and made recommendations for the energy transition in SIDS within the scope of the next 10-year agenda to be adopted in Antigua and Barbuda, at the



Flanking Prime Minister Browne, Minister of Health Sir Molwyn Joseph and Foreign Affairs Minister EP Chet Greene are Permanent Representative to the United Nations in Geneva Boris Latour (far left) and Resident Ambassador of Antigua and Barbuda to Jordan Sami al Mufleh (far right).

4th International Conference in May 2024.

Similarly, on September 21, Prime Minister Gaston Browne hosted a High-Level Breakfast with fellow Prime Ministers and Ministers of Health to address the issue of eye health, to ensure it remains central to the achievement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. The discussion took place on the margins of the Gen-

eral Assembly, bringing positive attention to the country's leadership on yet another important global issue affecting millions worldwide. Through the work of the United Nations Friends of Vision, of which Antigua and Barbuda is the founding chair. The meeting ended with a clarion call to support the call for a UN Secretary-General Envoy on Vision and ensure eye health is included in national reporting, such as the Voluntary National Reviews.

Another significant outcome was the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding on a Partnership for the Establishment of the SIDS Global Data Hub. This tripartite signing among Antigua and Barbuda, the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) and the PVBLC Foundation laid the groundwork for the establishment of a partnership that utilizes data and mobilizes the Family Offices for Sustainable Development to help SIDS achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and implement the new Programme of Action for SIDS

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UN Permanent Representative Ambassador Walton Webson (far right), Chairman of the PVBLC Foundation Sergio Fernandez de Cordova AOSIS (centre) and Chair Ambassador Pa'olelei Luteru signing an historic partnership on data and technology on behalf of SIDS.

Local News



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2024-2034, which will be adopted at the Fourth SIDS Conference in Antigua and Barbuda from May 27 – 30 next year.

In reflecting, Antigua and Barbuda’s Permanent Mission to the United Nations Ambassador Walton Webson, noted that this year’s General Assembly exceeded expectations and yielded strong outcomes on crucial matters that are at the very top of Antigua and Barbuda’s agenda, in ensuring a better and brighter future for the country and its people.

“Our leadership on the Multidimensional Vulnerability Index and our preparations for the SIDS4 Conference, to be held in Antigua and Barbuda, is paying off as both have yielded wide-

spread support from fellow leaders with whom Prime Minister Browne and his high-level delegation of colleague ministers engaged,” Ambassador Webson noted.

The country received strong pledges of support for the SIDS4 Conference, which will serve as the launching pad for a Centre of Excellence. The Centre is envisioned to be the nerve centre for the type of data SIDS lack in developmental planning, and to strengthen their case for financial assistance when the need arises. The international conference of island nations will be held in Antigua and Barbuda from May 27 – 30 next year.

Antigua and Barbuda also became one of the first signatories to the BBNJ Treaty, and the presence of Health



Prime Minister the Hon. Gaston Browne in discussion with Haitian President Ariel Henry (centre) during a meeting of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti at last week’s UN General Assembly.

Minister Sir Molwyn Joseph at the UNGA ensured that the country’s voice continues to be heard on major health and plastic pollution issues.

“The signing of the BBNJ Treaty, which was done by our Foreign Affairs Minister,

was yet another clear message on Antigua and Barbuda’s position on the climate crisis and our commitment to ensuring that our oceans are protected. As a nation, we should be proud,” Ambassador Webson added.



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St. Paul's Health Month begins

The annual Health Month programme of events, which seeks to help residents in the area attain and maintain good health, was launched during a service at the Baxter Methodist Church in English Harbour on Sunday.

“Health Month has been held for over ten years here in this community. We set aside the month of October when we hold a range of activities across the entire community. We are serving the people, keeping the issue of health, health care, and good health in focus.

“Our theme this year is ‘we are what we eat’ so naturally, the focus will be on food this year,” Member of Parliament for the area, E.P. Chet Greene stated in his comments during the Sunday morning service.

Greene recalled that the focus in 2022 was eye health, where with the help of Antigua and Barbuda’s Perma-

ment Representative to the United Nations, Dr. Aubrey Webson, they were able to get a group of American eye specialists to visit Antigua and conduct eye examinations. He revealed that from that programme more than one thousand pairs of glasses were distributed.

“This year’s theme is designed to encourage us all to eat properly, as what you put in is what you get out. Last year’s distribution of that many pairs of glasses speak to a problem that exists, so Health Month is celebrated and is used to identify problems and help find solutions,” he stated.

During the month, there will be general health checkups, as well as prostate screening, and breast cancer screening, while other activities will focus on the importance of water to health, as well as special programmes for seniors.



St. Paul's MP E.P. Chet Greene



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Telemaque attends PMAC meeting and CMU curriculum review

Chairman for the Port Managers Association of the Caribbean (PMAC), Darwin Telemaque of the Antigua Port Authority, has returned from a successful meeting where among other things it reviewed the curriculum of the Caribbean Maritime University (CMU).

Telemaque said they provided a platform for the university to engage regional industry stakeholders in presenting the new university curriculum and updating on the status of graduating students. “We looked at industry trends and the university’s capacity to deal with these trends. Additionally, we also looked at the issue of compliance on a regional scale which is an increasingly important trend,” he stated.



Darwin Telemaque

Looking ahead, Telemaque said starting next year, he as chairman of the PMAC, will deliver a State of Industry Report to the graduating class at the university. “We need to have an

element of academia to build out the skill set of graduates to fill the roles in the sector as the regional landscape changes,” he noted.

According to the PMAC chairman, there is a role for assessment and training ports to comply with the regulations.

“Overall, the meeting was successful as we looked at the new energy requirements, new International Maritime Organisation’s regulations, as well as new technologies and their impact on the maritime sector,” the PMAC chairman remarked.

Telemaque said the delegates were quite impressed with a display of gadgets that the students themselves had invented.

Unicorp Bank Overseas, Ltd.		
Statement of Financial Position		
June 30, 2023		
(Amounts in US Dollars)		
	2023	2022
Assets		
Deposits with banks (Notes 3, 5 and 10)		
Due from banks	1,233,896	2,161,154
Interest bearing deposits with banks	6,952,561	5,154,071
Total deposits with banks	8,187,457	7,315,225
Loans, net (Notes 3, 6 and 10)	53,530,800	60,725,923
Investment securities, net (Notes 3, 7 and 10)	37,423,941	49,193,531
Investment in associates (Notes 3, 8 and 10)	48,102,000	43,157,466
Computer equipment, net	1,510	1,510
Right-of-use assets (Note 16)	30,850	451
Other assets (Notes 3 and 10)		
Guarantee deposit	1,500,000	1,500,000
Other accounts receivable	87,489	67,536
Prepaid expenses	55,664	46,536
Total other assets	1,643,153	1,614,072
Total assets	148,919,711	162,008,178
Liabilities and Equity		
Liabilities		
Deposits (Notes 3 and 10)		
Demand	22,319,007	23,764,191
Time	93,099,321	106,960,429
Total deposits	115,418,328	130,724,620
Other liabilities (Note 10)	526,739	506,649
Lease liabilities (Note 17)	31,437	333
Total liabilities	115,976,504	131,231,602
Equity (Notes 3 and 10)		
Common stock (Note 9)	5,000,000	5,000,000
Retained earnings	29,220,193	27,227,065
Revaluation reserve for investments	(1,276,986)	(1,450,489)
Total equity	32,943,207	30,776,576
Total liabilities and equity	148,919,711	162,008,178
Director		Director

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Unicorp Bank Overseas, Ltd.		
Statement of Profit		
For the year ended June 30, 2023		
(Amounts in US Dollars)		
	2023	2022
Interest Income (Note 10)		
Interest on loans	112,233	93,426
Interest on deposits	1,224,338	186,280
Interest on investments	1,217,855	1,023,536
Total interest income	2,554,426	1,303,242
Interest expense (Note 10)	2,582,405	2,648,554
Net interest expense before provision (Provision) reversal of provision for deposits	(27,979)	(1,345,312)
Provision for possible loans losses	(9)	15
Reversal (provision) provision for impairment of investments	(29)	(8)
Net interest expense after provision	(16,244)	(1,345,981)
Other Income (Expense), Net		
Commission income (Note 15)	1,623,182	1,980,469
Commission expense	(26,586)	(25,502)
Unrealized gain on investment at fair value through profit or loss	12,228	29,911
Other income	2,098	1,959
Other income, net	1,610,922	1,986,837
General and administrative expenses (Notes 10, 11 and 14)	511,436	557,907
Income before share in profit of associates	1,083,242	82,949
Share in profit of associates (Notes 8 and 10)	5,392,120	1,207,499
Income before income tax	6,475,362	1,290,448
Income tax (Note 12)	(161,884)	(32,261)
Net income	6,313,478	1,258,187

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Late legal luminary, Time Kendall honoured by CCJ

The late legal luminary, Time H. Kendall, has been named among the CCJ Academy for Law’s 48 exceptional Caribbean lawyers to be recognised as ‘Legendary Caribbean Legal Practitioners’ in the third instalment of the Academy’s Eminent Caribbean Jurist series.

In a press release, the CCJ Academy of Law said the awardees are giants of the legal profession representing historical, transitional, and contemporary epochs of law and development in the region.

Kendall died in 1992 and was a highly respected attorney, with a reputation as an exceptionally skilled lawyer, not just in Antigua and Barbuda, but throughout the Caribbean.

The release said the Academy, which serves as the educational arm of the CCJ, created the Eminent Caribbean Jurist Awards Series in 2019, as a means of recognizing and honouring



Time H. Kendall

the contribution of Caribbean jurists to the law and societal development. The legal legends were selected by the CCJ Academy-appointed Regional Selection and Advisory Committee, which first met on 27 September 2022. Nominations were submitted from bar

associations, judiciaries, journalists, the Council for Legal Education and its law schools, other law schools in the region, professional associations, and former Eminent Caribbean Jurists. One hundred and fifteen nominations were received from which 48 were selected, having regard to regional and temporal distribution.

As part of the project, a brief profile was prepared for each honoree by specially selected essayists. These profiles will be compiled into a publication to memorialize the contribution of these outstanding legal practitioners to the development of law in the region. It is anticipated that the publication will be launched and available to the public in January 2024. As with the Academy’s previous publications, it is hoped that highlighting the lives and work of these Caribbean legal personalities will inspire the younger generation of practitioners.

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Two coff and a but

By **Tony Deyal**

My friend Sose was angry and came into the bar ready for war. “I will coffee down. True. I will coffee down and jump on his face. Let me catch him and when I finish coffee down he dead!” Believing that a little sweetening and the milk of human kindness would be best for all of us, I called out to Seeba, the proprietor who was behind the bar, “Seeba, bring a coffee for Sose.” Then I added, “Sose, what you want in your coffee? Milk and sugar? Or just milk alone? And if it is milk, you prefer condense or Carnation?” Sose, who had been to prison and was never afraid of anyone, turned his anger on me, “Tony, we are friends, but don’t mess with me you know. I blue vex and all you doing is getting me ready to beat the hell out of you instead.”

The problem of course is that many Trinis drink coffee, but when it comes to a fist-fight with someone they will “coff-ee” (or “cuff-he”) down and put him out for the count. I was lucky that Sose had warned me before dropping “two coff” or more in my face. One would have been enough to leave me “catspraddled” (fall and land sprawled) on my behind and that, for Sose, would not have been an affront or even an aside.

I see it as “neuroscience” or the study of how the nervous system develops. De-

spite his anger, Sose was a neuroscientist focusing on the brain of the other guy and hoping to destroy his positive and cognitive functions with one “coff”. What got me thinking about Sose, “coff”, coffee and neuroscience is that “Trigonelline” (TG), a compound in coffee, improves cognitive decline by preventing and improving age-related learning memory impairment. In other words, old people like me who drink and love their coffee are way ahead of the scientists.

I started drinking coffee when I was around four years old. My grandmother loved having her married daughters in her home so she could play with the children for a while. She always had three kinds of “tea” for the morning breakfast—green tea, cocoa tea, coffee tea and sometimes, right after payday, the children’s favourite “Milo” tea. Now, 74 years have passed since, at the age of four, I started drinking “Maxwell House” in my Grandma’s kitchen. Then when the war made it unavailable, I gulped down what she called “Nescaffee”. There was a British brand called “Costa”, but my grandmother said the name meant she couldn’t afford it. When I saw “Robusta” in the shop and asked her to buy one for me, my Grandma said, “The way you always running and playing, more Robusta and we wouldn’t know where to find you.”



Tony Deyal

REAL COLOUR

I must confess that until I was about six years old I never knew the real colour of any coffee because they were always “nestled” in a cocoon of condensed milk. I used to see my Grandma pour stuff from a brown paper bag into the battered, old aluminium pot from which the handle had broken off, and add water.

Then, about an hour after the heavenly smell would start to flood the senses, my grandmother or my mother would take a pot-cloth, risk third-degree burns, and pour the liquid into a large cup on which sat a rusted metal strainer that might have been made of BRC (British Reinforcement Concrete).

Like economics examinations at university where over the years the questions remain the same, but the

answers change, in the case of my grandma and her coffee she could have got a job with World Cup cricket as a grounds keeper. For us it was most times the same old grind for an entire week or more.

When we went to the village “wakes” where coffee and biscuits were always available, we were sure that my Grandma had lent them her pot with its contents and whoever was in the coffin would have been glad he had avoided the coffee. I look back at that time philosophically. It sent a message to me that if I survive the wake and the funeral, I would eventually have grounds for divorce.

That is why when I was playing cricket with my son and a doctor friend of his yesterday, they realised that I

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don't sweat, I percolate. Instead of a hill of beans, the way I was bowling and getting them out made me a hell to face instead. If any of them dares to call me an "old drip" behind my back, I tell them to their faces, "Thanks for the compliment."

I was in my favourite coffee haunt with my colleagues and third cup of black coffee for the morning when one of them told the others, "Poor Tony. You know how he likes to read. He find in a book about sex that coffee is an aphrodisiac for middle-aged men and despite being older than Methuselah he think it will help him. He already drink three cup and when he finds out the truth he will know he got four."

What my friends were unaware of is that four-cup or more, I like the taste and smell even though by the fifth or six cup I hardly notice. Now with Trigonel-

line, I can use "health reasons" for having ten cups at a time. Some studies show that caffeine, the stimulant found in coffee, is addictive.

After my tenth cup, that is water behind the bridge outside the bar. What matters is the headache that comes from not having my morning coffee, or from my infrequent efforts to stop drinking the stuff. Tea, which is also heavily loaded with caffeine, is not my cup of anything. Coffee is. My wife, who has tried every stratagem in and out of the books to get me to stop, once tried a mug of my coffee and said it tasted like mud. I explained to her that it was ground only ten minutes before.

Worse, coffee does not keep me awake at nights but has my wife twisting, turning and worried because of what she believes coffee will do to my health. She is convinced that it is bad for me and that my arteries are as hard

as rock stone and are getting as rigid as my determination to continue drinking fresh percolated coffee. When I say it "perks" me up she cites evidence from every health magazine and research study to show that coffee is bad for me. I tell her that I am so healthy that I can tackle any Blue Mountain, and not just the coffee that grows on it. In fact, for people with Type 2 diabetes, something I don't have, coffee increases insulin production and function, especially if it is unsweetened. So, given my great health, when anyone asks me, "How are you?" I reply with the fullest confidence, "Sweet for days and still good to the last drop."

Tony Deyal learnt one thing from his doctor. If you take his command to replace your morning coffee with green tea you will lose about 90 per cent of whatever joy you have left in life.



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Safer brain surgery using AI possible within two years

By Tulip Mazumdar

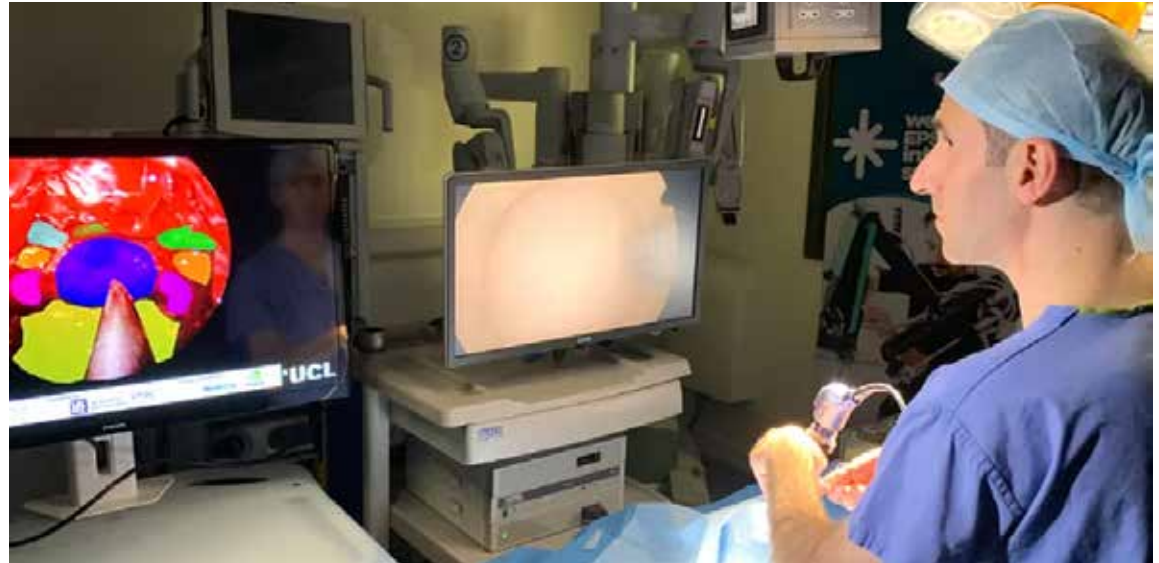
Brain surgery using artificial intelligence could be possible within two years, making it safer and more effective, a leading neurosurgeon says.

Trainee surgeons are working with the new AI technology, to learn more precise keyhole brain surgery.

Developed at University College London, it highlights small tumours and critical structures such as blood vessels at the centre of the brain.

The government says it could be “a real game-changer” for healthcare in the UK.

Brain surgery is precise and painstaking - straying a millimetre the wrong way could kill a patient instantly.



A surgeon using the AI trainer on a dummy “patient”.

Avoiding damaging the pituitary gland, the size of a grape, at the centre of the brain, is critical. It controls all the body’s hormones - and any problems with it can cause blindness.

“If you go too small with your approach, then you risk

not removing enough of the tumour,” National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery consultant neurosurgeon Hani Marcus says.

“If you go too large, you risk damaging these really critical structures.”

The AI system has analysed more than 200 videos of this type of pituitary surgery, reaching, in 10 months, a level of experience it would take a surgeon 10 years to gain.

“Surgeons like myself - even if you’re very experienced - can, with the help of AI, do a better job to find that boundary than without it,” Mr Marcus says.

“You could, in a few years, have an AI system that has seen more operations than any human has ever or could ever see.”

Trainee Dr Nicola Newell also finds it “very helpful”.

“It helps me orientate myself during mock surgery and helps identify what steps

and what stages are coming up next,” she says.

AI government minister Viscount Camrose says: “AI makes everybody massively more productive whatever it is you do.

“It kind of almost makes you the Marvel superhero version of yourself.”

He said this type of technology could be a game-changer for healthcare, improving outcomes for everyone and offering a “very promising” future.

University College London (UCL) is one of 22 universities recently given government money to help revolutionise healthcare in the UK.

Engineers, clinicians and scientists are working together on the project at the Wellcome / Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) Centre for Interventional and Surgical Sciences.

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I, **Alleyne Daniel** of Wireless Road, Clare Hall, St. John's Antigua, Do Hereby Give Notice that it is my intention to apply at the next special session, to be held at be at the Magistrates Court, St. John's on the 5th day of October, 2023 for a Tavern License in respect of our premises known as "A Daniel's Enterprise" situated at Utility Drive, St. John's Antigua. This application is made pursuant to Section 11(3) of the Licensing (Intoxicating Liquor) Act Cap 249 of the Laws Antigua and BARBUDA Revised Edition 1992.

Dated the 30th day of August, 2023.

Alleyne Daniel

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- Ordering vehicle parts in a timely manner
- Liaise with customers on special orders, providing them updates from purchase through to delivery or order
- Liaise within a timely manner daily with the service department on requests made
- Liaise with suppliers on all items ordered
- Ensure the parts ordered and received are accurate
- Provide customers with advice
- Assist with the yearend stock taking exercise
- Other parts related tasks

This role best suits an individual who is flexible, easily adaptable and works well as part of a team. Having knowledge of an automotive computerized system would be an asset.

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Skills Required:

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- Literacy & numeracy
- Ability to meet the physical demands of the job
- Self-motivated
- Upbeat and energized
- Flexible and willing to take on a variety of tasks
- Computer literacy

Deadline for submission of application is **October 13,2023**.

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UN to vote on sending armed force to help Haiti fight gangs

The UN Security Council is scheduling a vote Monday on a resolution that would authorise a one-year deployment of an international force to help Haiti quell a surge in gang violence and restore security so the troubled Caribbean nation can hold long-delayed elections.

The US-drafted resolution obtained by The Associated Press on Saturday welcomes Kenya's offer to lead the multinational security force. It makes clear this would be a non-UN force funded by voluntary contributions.

The resolution would authorise the force for one year, with a review after nine months.

The force would be allowed to provide operational support to Haiti's National Police, which is underfunded and under resourced, with only some 10,000 active officers for a country of more than 11 million people.

The resolution says the force would help build the capacity of local police "through the planning and conduct of joint security support operations as it works to counter gangs and improve security conditions in Haiti."

The force would also help secure "critical infrastructure sites and transit locations such as the airport, ports, and key intersections." Powerful gangs have seized control of key roads leading from Haiti's capital to the country's northern and southern regions, disrupting the transportation of food and other goods.

Passage by the Security Council would authorize the force to "adopt urgent temporary measures on an exceptional basis" to prevent the loss of life and help police maintain public safety.

Leaders of the mission would be



Armed members of "G9 and Family" march in a protest against Haitian Prime Minister Ariel Henry in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Tuesday, September 19, 2023. (AP Photo/Odelyn Joseph)

required to inform the council on the mission's goals, rules of engagement, financial needs and other matters before a full deployment.

A spokesman for Haitian Prime Minister Ariel Henry said he wasn't aware of the resolution or the upcoming vote and said the government did not immediately have comment.

The resolution condemns "the increasing violence, criminal activities, and human rights abuses and violations which undermine the peace, stability, and security of Haiti and the region, including kidnappings, sexual and gender-based violence, trafficking in persons and the smuggling of migrants, homicides, extrajudicial killings, as well as arms smuggling."

If adopted, it would mark the first time a force has been deployed to Haiti since the U.N. approved a stabilization mission in June 2004 that was marred by a sexual abuse scandal and the introduction of cholera. That mission ended in October 2017.

Concerns also have surrounded the proposed Kenyan-led mission, with critics noting that police in the East Africa country have long been accused of using torture, deadly force and other abuses.

The resolution stresses that all those participating in the proposed mission must take necessary action to prevent sexual exploitation and abuse as well as vet all personnel. It also demands swift investigations of any allegations of misconduct.

In addition, the resolution warns that those involved in the mission must adopt wastewater management and other environmental controls to prevent the introduction and spread of water-borne diseases, such as cholera.

It wasn't immediately clear how big the force would be if approved, although Kenya's government has previously proposed sending 1,000 police officers. In addition, Jamaica, the Bahamas, and Antigua and Bar-

cont'd on pg 15

BVI Governor: No need for direct rule, but progress must be made

By Dillon De Shong

Governor John Rankin has said at this time, there is no need for the United Kingdom to exercise direct rule over the British Virgin Islands to implement governance reforms in the overseas territory.

Rankin made the observation in his Fourth Quarterly Review of the implementation of the Commission of Inquiry (COI) recommendations, which was published last week.

“I do not believe there is an immediate need for additional powers based on the plans and commitments the Government has made. However, if we do not see significant progress in the coming months, additional action may be necessary,” Rankin said.

In the review, the governor noted that although no additional recommendations were completed in the last quarter, much has been done over the last few months.

He said policy development is underway across social assistance, scholarships, Crown Land distribution and Statutory Boards. Additionally, action plans have started to come to cabinet and public consultation is taking place.

“I am pleased to note that specific issues which I raised in my previous Quarterly Review received the positive attention of the Premier. Addition-



Governor John Rankin..

al funding for the Royal Virgin Islands Police Force (RVIPF) was agreed. And actions have been taken to improve and speed up the current arrangements for processing Residency and Belonger Status applications,” he said.

Rankin said it is vital for officials to take action on the findings and recommendations in the Audits and Reviews to prevent abuses from occurring again.

He warned that if the findings of audits are undermined or reviews aren’t given proper consideration, there is a risk that the abuses which previ-

ously took place will happen again in the future.

“So the three months ahead are where more of the real work starts. I recognise that some of the issues covered in the Reviews are sensitive, some are difficult, and that meaningful public consultation is required,” Rankin stated.

“But we have, on occasion, seen elected officials questioning the necessity of reforms and the findings of audits.

“What happens next is therefore crucial. If the findings of audits are undermined or reviews aren’t given proper consideration, there is a risk that the abuses which previously took place will happen again in the future. We all, myself as Governor and the Government, must not waiver in our commitment to reform.”

Rankin will demit office in December to make way for new governor Daniel Pruce.

He will publish his final review before leaving office and the document is expected to help Pruce in overseeing the reforms.

Rankin added that he looks forward to working with British Virgin Islands Premier Dr Natalio Wheatley during his remaining time in office to complete as many reforms as possible.

cont’d from pg 14

buda have pledged to send personnel.

Last month, the administration of US President Joe Biden promised to provide logistics and \$100 million to support a Kenyan-led force.

The resolution notes that the Security Council

intends to impose additional sanctions on Jimmy Chérizier, known as “Barbecue,” who heads Haiti’s biggest gang alliance. Chérizier, a former police officer, recently warned that he would fight any armed force suspected of abuses.

The proposed resolution comes nearly a year

after Haiti’s prime minister and other top government officials requested the immediate deployment of a foreign armed force as the government struggles to fight violent gangs estimated to control up to 80 per cent of the capital of Port-au-Prince.

From Jan. 1 to Aug. 15,

more than 2,400 people in Haiti were reported killed, more than 950 kidnapped and 902 injured, according to the most recent UN statistics. More than 200,000 others have been displaced by violence, with many crammed in makeshift shelters after gangs pillaged their communities.

Turkey strikes Kurdish rebels after Ankara blast

By Alex Binley

Turkey says it has carried out a number of air strikes on Kurdish rebels in northern Iraq, hours after a suicide blast hit the interior ministry.

The government said 20 targets were destroyed and many militants from the banned PKK rebel group “neutralised”.

The PKK said Sunday morning’s bombing in the capital, Ankara, was carried out by a group linked to them, a member of which blew himself up.

A second attacker was killed by police and two police officers were injured.

The Kurdistan Workers’ Party (PKK) is considered a terror group in Turkey, the EU, UK and US.

Sunday’s air strikes targeted caves, depots and bunkers used by the PKK, Turkey’s defence ministry said.

AFP quoted it as saying the operation was “to neutralise the PKK and other terrorist elements, prevent terrorist attacks from northern Iraq against our population and our law enforcement agencies, and ensure the security of our borders”.

The Kurdish news agency Rudaw said the strikes targeted Mount Qandil near the Iranian border, believed to be a PKK stronghold.

They were carried out following an explosion on Ankara’s Ataturk Boulevard that happened hours before



The explosion happened just hours before parliament was due to reconvene.

parliament was due to reconvene after a summer break.

Immortals Battalion - the group that claimed responsibility - said this is why they targeted the ministry, which is close to parliament.

The incident began at around 09:30 (06:30 GMT) when one of the attackers exited their car and threw a small explosive at the ministry building to distract security.

After this, the second attacker opened fire at guards by the ministry gate, before detonating a suicide bomb.

The first person, meanwhile, ran into the compound and was immediately shot dead by police.

Two officers were injured. One was shot in the chest and another suffered injuries in both legs and an eye.

Interior Minister Ali

Yerlikaya told reporters that none of the injuries were life-threatening.

A senior Turkish security official told the BBC the attackers had hijacked their vehicle on Saturday in Kayseri, a city some 260 km (161 miles) south-east of Ankara.

They reportedly shot dead the car’s driver, a 24-year-old veterinarian who was driving in the countryside.

The official said footage from security cameras from Kayseri to the Syrian border were being reviewed to determine where the suspects came from.

In his speech opening parliament, President Recep Tayyip Erdogan described the attack as “the final flutters of terrorism”.

“The vile people who took aim at the peace and security of our citizens did

not reach their goal and they never will,” he said.

Kurdish militants have come under intense pressure by the authorities, who have jailed their leaders and conducted military operations against Kurdish bases inside Turkey and across the border in Syria and Iraq.

The PKK, which has Marxist-Leninist roots, was formed in the late 1970s and launched an armed struggle against the Turkish government in 1984, calling for an independent Kurdish state within Turkey.

In the 1990s, the PKK rolled back on its demands for an independent state, calling instead for more autonomy for the Kurds. More than 40,000 people have died in the conflict.

Fighting flared up again after a two-year-old ceasefire ended in July 2015.

Spain: Nightclub fire kills 13 in Murcia

At least 13 people have died in a fire that engulfed three nightclubs in the south-eastern Spanish city of Murcia.

The blaze broke out in the Fonda Milagros nightclub - known as La Fonda - early on Sunday morning.

It then spread to neighbouring clubs as patrons rushed to escape the packed dancefloors, police said.

Local media reported that family members celebrating a birthday were among the dead.

One of the the birthday party attendees - who was at the club with his cousins and aunt - said he returned home during the chaos, only to be told that one of his cousins had not left, La Verdad de Murcia newspaper reported.

It is not clear if the cousin was among those confirmed dead.

Police have confirmed that all of



The fire spread from Fonda Milagros to the next door Teatre club.

those who died were at La Fonda, but added 14 people were still unaccounted for. They warned the number of deaths would probably rise.

The club is located in the Atalayas area in Murcia, and the fire is believed to have started at around 06:00 (04:00 GMT).

Nearly 15 hours on, it is still not clear what caused it. But Murcia's Mayor Jose Ballesta told reporters earlier in the day that the fire had broken out on the first floor of the club.

Diego Seral, of the national police, said the roof of La Fonda had collapsed, which was making it challenging to locate victims and work out what had happened.

A 28-year-old woman sent a voice note to her mother when the fire had started, according to the La Verdad de Murcia newspaper, saying: "Mummy, I love you, we're going to die."

She had gone out with her partner and some friends from the nearby town of Caravaca de la Cruz. It is not clear if she survived.

"They went because in Caravaca there are no nightclubs," the woman's father, named as Jairo, told the paper. "It was the second time she had been."

Four people are being treated in hospital for smoke inhalation, and a local sports venue is being used to provide counselling for those affected.

"We are devastated," Murcia Mayor Jose Ballesta said. He has decreed three days of mourning in Murcia.

This is believed to be the country's worst nightclub fire in more than 30 years. In 1990, 43 people were killed in a blaze in a venue in Zaragoza.

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Wadadli Elite assists Brewer in landing a pro-contract in Spain

The Wadadli Elite Academy has been instrumental in helping another senior national team player acquire a professional basketball contract in Spain.

Days after Wadadli Bulldogs center/forward Alexis Jackson departed to fulfill his first professional contract with Tobarra CB in Spain, national teammate Remy Brewer also left for Europe to begin a professional offer with AD Maraleja CB in Spain.

Brewer, who has Antiguan parentage, was based in Trinidad when he first joined the Wadadli Elite at an Under-26 basketball tournament in Montserrat in December 2022.

According to a press release from

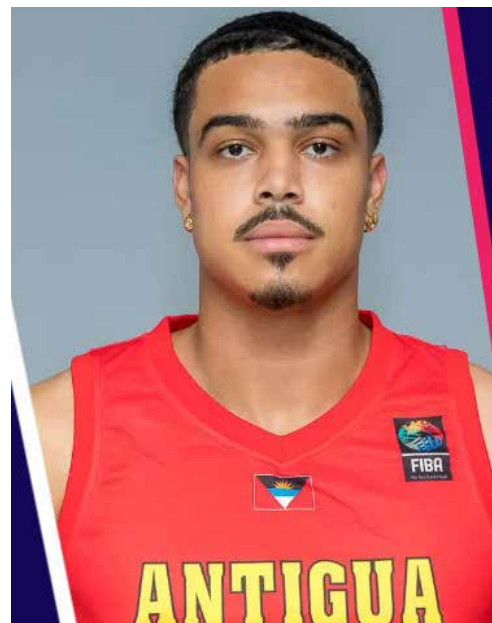
Wadadli Elite, it was there at the tournament in Montserrat that “we recognized his talent when he played a pivotal role in helping us to win the championship.”

Brewer then represented the Stingerz basketball club in the 2023 Antigua and Barbuda Basketball Association’s (ABBA) Division I league.

Brewer was then selected to represent the senior national team, the Wadadli Bulldogs, at the FIBA Americup 2025 Pre-Qualifies in Managua, Nicaragua, in June 2023.

The Wadadli Elite has expressed congratulations to Brewer on his achievements and also thanks John-

cont’d on pg 19



Senior national basketball player Remy Brewer. (ABBA)

Antigua win opening game at ECCB International Netball Series

Host Antigua and Barbuda made a winning start to their campaign in the Eastern Caribbean Central

Bank (ECCB) International Netball Series at the YMCA Sports Complex on Saturday.

Antigua and Barbuda snatched a 45-41 victory against Dominica in one of four matches during the

opening day of the nine-team round-robin tournament.

Defending champions St. Vincent and the Grenadines also made a successful start in defense of their title, which they won at last year’s event in Dominica.

The Vincentians cruised past the guest team, the Cayman Islands, 60-42.

St. Lucia trounced Montserrat 58-5, while Grenada beat St. Kitts and Nevis 58-45 in the other two opening-day affairs.

The tournament officially commenced with a parade of teams and an opening ceremony earlier on Saturday. The guest team, Barbados, is the other participant in the annual competition.



Players of Antigua and Barbuda compete against Dominica in the ECCB International Netball Series at the YMCA Sports Complex on Saturday, September 30, 2023.

Matthews shines but West Indies Women lose first T20 International

SYDNEY, Australia - In a riveting display of talent and skill, Hayley Matthews hits an unbeaten half century in a losing effort for the West Indies Women in the first T20 International against host Australia Women on Sunday.

Matthews scored a blazing 99 not out off just 74 deliveries in the West Indies total of 147 for three off their 20 overs. However, her lone effort couldn't save the day for the West Indies Women, who lost by eight wickets against the Australians at the North Sydney Oval.

Matthews took the opposition bowlers to the cleaners, hitting boundaries at will, and missing her well-deserved century by a whisker. Her innings was adorned with 12 fours and four sixes, making it one of the most memorable performances of her career.

The West Indies, riding on Matthews' brilliance, posted a defensible total. However, the opposition seemed unfazed by the challenge and chased down the target in 13.2 overs, losing only two wickets in the pro-



West Indies Hayley Matthews, left, plays an attacking shot during the first T20 International against Australia Women at the North Sydney Oval in Sydney, Australia, October 1, 2023. (CWI Media)

cess, to finish the game on 149 for two.

Skipper Alyssa Healy scored 56 off 29 balls, while Tahlia McGrath finished on 60 not out off 32 deliveries to guide the home team to their opening game victory.

Although the day belonged to the home team, Matthews won countless hearts with her valiant effort.

Head Coach Shane Deitz remarked, "Magnificent innings, she really deserved the hundred. It's one of the

tive on the outcome.

He added, "I think we were a bit short as the wicket started playing better in the second half. It was a pretty good total, and maybe if we had taken our chances while fielding, things could have been different."

No surprise that Matthews was the Player of the Match for her 99 not out and claiming one for 17.

The West Indies Women will now regroup and strategize for the second T20I today, hoping to bounce back stronger.

This defeat, though disappointing, has set the stage for what promises to be an exciting series.

With both teams showcasing their strengths and weaknesses in the first match, the next encounter is nicely set-up to be a nail-biter.

best innings I've seen for a long time. She's been brilliant around the group as a leader, batter, and bowler."

Deitz also touched upon the team's overall performance, sharing his perspec-



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cont'd from pg 18

than Weekes of Caribbean Hoops and others who have played instrumental roles that resulted in the two Antiguan players landing professional contracts to play in Spain.

"Brewer stands at six feet, eight inches, weighs 235 pounds, and is a strong, explosive player. He is a great teammate who is a constant source of encouragement to the other players.

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Garden Stars win Warriors Cup

Garden Stars are the champions of the 2023 Warriors Cup Football Tournament.

The men from Liberta secured the title by winning all four round-robin matches in the five-team competition at the Radio Range playing field in Ottos.

The tournament's leading goal scorer, Karique Knight, scored twice as the Garden Stars wrapped up their championship run by trouncing Sea View Farm 4-1 in the final match of the competition.

Knight scored in the 72nd and 81st minutes to complete his team's victory after goals by Kimoi Walsh in the 6th minute and Sadique Adams in the 14th minute gave the Garden Stars a 2-0 halftime advantage.

Striker Akem Warick scored a consolation goal for Sea View Farm in the final minute of the 90-minute encounter.

Head coach Astel Joseph said the Garden Stars, who gained promotion to the premier division by winning last season's first division, utilized the Warriors Cup to help prepare for their debut appearance in the nation's top domestic league this season.

"A win is always comforting and always welcomed. We were working on some stuff in terms of going into the premier league. We got to work on our shape, positioning, and



The Garden Stars team and officials celebrate with their trophies after the presentation of awards to conclude the Warriors Cup football competition at the Radio Range playing field in Ottos on Thursday, September 28, 2023.

defense," Joseph stated.

Sea View Farm clinched the runners-up stop by virtue of a superior goal difference than Master Ballerz and CPTSA Wings after all three teams finished the competition with identical records of two wins and two losses.

Head coach Urdel "Ijahbah" Codrington said he is pleased with Sea View Farm's performance in the Warriors Cup tournament.

"It's a good showing for us because we have a bunch of youths who were with us last year, and so this Warriors Cup was a good showing for them," Codrington said.

Host Young Warriors, the other team that participated in the 17th edition of the Warriors Cup, finished in the cellar without a point, having lost all of their four round-robin matches.

Garden Stars also dominated the individual awards, which were presented by Firs Vice-President of the Antigua and Barbuda Nurs-



Karique Knight, left, accepts one of his awards from Firs Vice-President of the Antigua and Barbuda Nurses Association, nurse Aaliyah Gregory, during a brief ceremony following the completion of the final match in the Warriors Cup at the Radio Range playing field in Ottos on Thursday, September 28, 2023. (Photo by Elwin Francis)

es Association (ABNA), nurse Aaliyah Gregory, during a brief ceremony following the completion of the final match.

Knight, who won the Golden Boot award for scoring seven goals, was also named the 2023 Warriors Cup Most Valuable Player (MVP).

The other individual honours were swept by his teammates. The best

young player was Sidique Adams; Courtnie Roberts was the tournament's best goalkeeper; Tarek Charles was the best defender; and Courtney Clarke was selected as the best midfielder.

Cleaveland Williams of the Garden Stars and Salim Browne of the F.C. Master Ballers were named the best coach and the best manager, respectively.



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Richie's Shooterz stay perfect in business basketball league

Richie's Shooterz kept their perfect record intact in the Cool and Smooth Antigua and Barbuda Basketball Association's (ABBA) Business League Competition on Saturday night.

Richie's Shooterz shot their way to their sixth win in as many games by romping to a 67-47 victory against Trimmingham Trucking Enterprises at the JSC Sports Complex.

Sean Nicholas scored 17 points, Lincoln Weekes sank 12 points, Olivee Morris had 11 points, and Tavarus Benta chipped in with 10 points for Richie's Shooterz.

T-Shawn Lewis converted 12 points, and Daleonte Phillip had 10 points for Trimmingham Trucking Enterprises.

Takeem Martin shot a game-high 28 points as Health First Pharmacy Fearless Crew notched up their third win in five encounters with a 76-38 victory against the Police.

Najee Simons scored 14 points, and Errol Quallis and Ricky Willock each chipped in with 10 points for the Fearless Crew. Javon Simon had 14 points for the Police.

The Board of Education (BOE) and the Callan Shooters also recorded wins.

Kelvyn Pimental sank

19 points, and Jesus Emmanuel converted 12 points to lead the Board of Education to a 53-48 victory against the Sir Lester Bird Medical Center (SLBMC). Delornje Jules produced 16 points for the Sir Lester Bird Medical Center.

Leroy Percival scored 13 points as the Callan Shooters snatched a narrow 46-42 victory against the Sandals. Keroi Lee converted 16 points, and Keaddy Martin had 10 points for the Sandals.

The business basketball league competition

will continue with a double-header at the JSC Sports Complex tonight.

Health First Pharmacy Fearless Crew will take on the Sandals at 6:45 pm, while the Sledge'O Ballers will face the Antigua and Barbuda Transport Board at 7:45 pm.

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- St. Lucia
- St. Vincent & the Grenadines

ABTTA gets ITTF's assistance to bolster table tennis in schools

The Antigua and Barbuda Table Tennis Association (ABTTA) is getting some assistance from the International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) to bolster the sport in the twin-island nation.

ITTF Coach Aleena Edwards of Trinidad & Tobago is visiting Antigua and Barbuda from October 1-12 to assist the ABTTA in implementing and strengthening a table tennis programme within several schools across the island.

In 2022, Edwards won her 12th Trinidad & Tobago national singles title, which is the most by any player in the local history of the sport. She is also a high-performance coach at the University of Trinidad and Tobago.

Edwards completed her bachelor's degree at the International School of Physical Education and Sports in Havana, Cuba, where she specialized in table tennis.

She went on to complete a Master of Science in Applied Sport and Exercise Psychology at Bangor University, Wales, in the United Kingdom. Edwards is currently completing an Executive Masters in Sport Management at the University of Trinidad and Tobago.

Edwards is an International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) Certified Level 3 Table Tennis Coach as well as an ITTF Certified International Course Conductor - the first female native English speaker in the Americas to have attained this qualification.



ITTF Coach Aleena Edwards of Trinidad & Tobago will be visiting Antigua and Barbuda in October.

Edwards, who hails from a family of table tennis players, will assist the ABTTA in its mission to further introduce the sport in Antigua and Barbuda's educational systems.

During her visit to Antigua and Barbuda, Edwards will conduct a specialized club coach course for 30 physical education (PE) teachers, ensuring they are equipped to impart foundational and advanced table tennis skills to students on October 2-3.

From October 4-6, she will oversee the rollout of table tennis introductions at two schools daily, targeting six schools in total. This groundwork is pivotal for the sport's expansion within the school plant.

The ABTTA will place table tennis boards in six schools, compliments of the Embassy of the People's Republic of China, and supply them with rackets and balls, ensuring they have the tools

necessary to nurture budding talent.

Edwards will conduct a vigorous training session with athletes from the national table tennis programme on October 7.

On October 8, she will spearhead an introduction to para-table tennis, emphasizing the sport's inclusivity and expanding its reach.

Edwards will then travel to the sister island of Barbuda, where she will conduct sessions introducing table tennis in schools on October 9-10.

Edwards will wrap up her visit to Antigua and Barbuda with a media day on October 11. She leaves the following day.

The President of ABTTA, Charles "Chucky" Bellot, said, "The foundation we are laying, with Ms. Edwards' expertise, is a leap towards our vision of integrating table tennis extensively into our educational institutions.